

Principles of Ethical Conduct

1. Public service is a public trust that requires you to place loyalty to the constitution, the laws and ethical principles above private gain.
2. You shall not hold financial interests that conflict with the conscientious performance of your duty.
3. You shall not engage in financial transactions using nonpublic Government information or allow the improper use of such information to further any public interest.
4. You shall not, except pursuant to such reasonable exceptions as are provided by regulation, solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity seeking official action from, doing business with, or conducting activities regulated by SBA, or whose interest may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of your duties.
5. You shall put forth an honest effort in the performance of your duties.
6. You shall make no authorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind the Government.
7. You shall not use public office for private gain.
8. You shall act impartially. You shall not give preferential treatment to any private organization or individual.
9. You shall protect and conserve Federal property and shall not use it for unauthorized activities.
10. You shall not engage in outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that conflict with your official Government duties and responsibilities.
11. You shall disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption to appropriate authorities.
12. You shall satisfy, in good faith, your obligations as a citizen. This includes satisfying all just financial obligations, especially Federal, state or local taxes that are imposed by law.
13. You shall adhere to all laws and regulations that provide equal opportunity for all Americans regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.
14. You shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that you are violating the law or the ethical stands promulgated pursuant to these Executive Orders.

By observing these general principles, you help to ensure that American citizens have complete confidence in the integrity of their Government's operations and programs.